

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 01896 120838Z

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ACTION EA-07

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO USIA WASHDC

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AMCONSUL NAHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 1896

USIAC

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJ: OKINAWA OCEAN EXPO 75

REF: TOKYO 1735

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO DISCUSSIONS REGARDING PROCEDURE IN SELECTING CHAIRMAN OF COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF SECTIONS, JAI OE SPOKESMAN OKAMOTO PROVIDED POST WITH EXPO 70 "GENERAL REPORT OF SECOND CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS GENERAL" HELD AT KYOTO NOVEMBER 12-15, 1968. ALTHOUGH COMMISSIONERS GENERAL OF PARTICIPATING NATIONS HAD MET ORIGINALLY IN MAY 1968, ESTABLISHMENT OF "STEERING COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS GENERAL" AND SELECTION OF STEERING COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN WERE ACCOMPLISHED AT SECOND MEETING IN NOVEMBER.

2. ACCORDING TO MINUTES OF THE MEETING, AGENDA ITEM 7, PAGE 25, CHAIRMAN HAGUIWARA (COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF GOVERNMENT , WHO REMAINED OVERALL CHAIRMAN OF COMMISSIONERS GENERAL THROUGH- OUT EXPOSITION) OPENED MEETING BY SAYING HE INTENDED TO FOLLOW PROCEDURES USED BOTH MONTREAL AND BRUSSELS BY FIRST CALLING FOR NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN OF STEERING COMMITTEE AND THEN CALLING FOR NAMING COMMITTEE MEMBERS. HE IMMEDIATELY GAVE FLOOR TO BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE BARON DAUFRESNE (WHO HAD BEEN CHAIR- MAN OF STEERING COMMITTEE AT MONTREAL). DAUFRESNE SAID, "I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WE FOLLOW MONTREAL PRECEDENT AND ACCEPT AS CHAIRMAN THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM CANADA: WHICH HAD THE

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 01896 120838Z

LATEST EXPOSITION, THAT OF 1967. IN THIS MANNER, WE WOULD BEN-

EFIT THE MOST AND IN THE EASIEST WAY FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF
THAT EXPOSITION...."

3. OBVIOUSLY, ARRANGEMENTS FOR CANADA'S NOMINATION HAD BEEN
MADE IN ADVANCE, BUT OKAMOTO HAS BEEN UNABLE DETERMINE TIMING
OF ORIGINAL DECISION BY HAGUIWARA TO RECOGNIZE DAUFRESNE.

4. OKAMOTO RECONFIRMED EARLY STATEMENTS BY OKAZAKI AND HIMSELF
THAT ANY OPEN ARRANGEMENT FOR SELECTION OF U.S. COMMISSIONER
AS STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN WOULD BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE.
AS OKAZAKI EARLIER STATED, OKAMOTO SUGGESTED THAT SOMETHING
MIGHT BE DONE "BEHIND THE SCENES," AND ONCE AGAIN STRESSED
NEED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY.

5. POST ASSUMES AGENCY FILES ON EXPO 75 MAY INCLUDE GENERAL
REPORT OF KYOTO'S SECOND CONFERENCE. AIRSHIPPING COPY AS
BACKSTOP.
CARTER

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NNN

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